

BURNLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year ended 31st December, 1946.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

We have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the district for the year 1946.

The health of the district was very satisfactory throughout the year and there was no excessive or unusual mortality which requires special comment.

The birth-rate of 15·2 per 1,000 of the population was practically the same as in 1945, but was 3·9 lower than the rate for England and Wales.

There were 10 deaths of infants under one year of age, giving an infantile mortality rate of 40·0 per 1,000 births, which was an increase of 15·0 per 1,000 over the previous year and 3 per 1,000 more than the national rate.

Deaths from all causes totalled 236, giving a death-rate of 14·4 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 203 deaths and a rate of 13·0 per 1,000 in 1945. The death-rate for England and Wales was 11·5.

Of the 236 deaths, 151 were of persons over 65 years of age. The principal causes of death were — Heart disease 72, Cerebral haemorrhage 25, Cancer 24, Bronchitis 12.

Regarding the incidence of infectious disease, it will be noted from the statistics given in the report that the number of cases was considerably below the average for the previous 5 years, especially as regards cases of scarlet fever, measles and whooping cough.

Seven cases of diphtheria occurred, as compared with 15 in 1945. It is interesting to note that 6 of the 7 cases had not received immunisation treatment.

Diphtheria Immunisation continued during the year, and 212 children received primary treatment, which was chiefly carried out at Child Welfare Centres or privately by their own family doctor. In addition, sessions for treatment were held at schools, and 180 children received a secondary or re-inforcing injection. Private practitioners were engaged to give this treatment.

According to the records in the office, 53% of the child population under 5 years of age and 68% between the ages of 5 and 15 had received immunisation treatment at the end of 1946. This percentage is rather low, but no doubt many more children have received treatment privately of which we have no official record. Leaflets were distributed in schools, and the homes of infants were visited by the County Health Visitors, in an endeavour to persuade parents to have their children immunised.

Supervision of the sanitary conditions of the district was well maintained. The position regarding labour and materials still remains difficult, and efforts had therefore of necessity to be concentrated on the more essential repairs necessary to keep dwellings in a reasonable state of repair.

We desire again to acknowledge the good work done by Mr. A. Johnson, Chief Sanitary Inspector, who has throughout the year performed his duties with commendable thoroughness. Much of this report has been compiled by him and we fully appreciate his help.

We are,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servants,

D. C. LAMONT.
R. E. ROBINSON.

November, 1947

Burnley Rural District Council

YEAR 1946.



Chairman : COUNCILLOR R. TOOTELL.

Vice-Chairman : COUNCILLOR H. JESSOP.



COUNCILLORS :

Altham	- - -	Herbert Jessop, Pasture Gate, Altham.
Barley	- - -	G. T. Cook, 6, Pendle View, Barley.
Blacko	- - -	Irvin Walton, " Hillcrest " Gisburn Road, Blacko.
Briercliffe	- -	James E. Leaver, Rose Cottage, Cockden, Briercliffe.
Cliviger	- - -	William Alderson, c.c., 1, Longfield Terrace, Cliviger.
Dunnockshaw	-	John E. Riley, 4, Prospect Terrace, Dunnockshaw.
Foulridge	- - -	W. Roberts, " Bankfield," Foulridge.
Goldshaw Booth		William Starkie, Craven Lea, Fence, nr. Burnley.
Habergham Eaves		E. Broxup, 433, Manchester Road, Habergham Eaves.
Hapton	- - -	Edward Dinsdale, " Hambleside," Burnley Road, Hapton.
Higham	- - -	A Brown, 19, Laneside, Higham.
Ightenhill	- - -	The Rt. Hon. Lord Shuttleworth, M.C., J.P., Gawthorpe Hall, Padiham.
Old Laund Booth		C. E. Angus, 2, Forest Avenue, Wheatley Lane.
Read	- - - -	Rev. G. Greatorex, The Vicarage, Read.

COUNCILLORS.—CONTINUED.

Reedley Hallows	Richard Tootell, 22, Reedley Grove, Reedley.
Roughlee Booth	J. Broughton, Hr. Greystones Farm, Roughlee.
Sabden - - -	C. Driver, 23, Pendle Street West, Sabden.
Simonstone and Northtown	J. R. Ferniough, "Edgeley" South View, Whin Lane, Simonstone.
Worsthorne-with-Hurstwood	Alfred Henry Pickles, J.P., "Bryn Hey," Worsthorne.

 OFFICIALS :—

Clerk—H. E. PURTON (retired 31st December, 1946).
 A. MOORE, (Appointed 1st January, 1947.)

Medical Officers of Health—D. C. LAMONT, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
 (Temporary). M.O.H., BURNLEY.

R. E. ROBINSON, M.A., M.R.C.S.,
 L.R.C.P., D.P.H., M.O.H., COLNE.

Engineer and Surveyor—F. HEWITT, F.S.I.,
 (retired 31st July, 1946.)
 H. VARLEY, F.S.I.,
 (from 1st August, 1946.)

Sanitary Inspectors—A. JOHNSON M.S.I.A.
 H. WOODCOCK, M.S.I.A.

Council Offices—"OAKLEIGH," REEDLEY, NEAR BURNLEY.

(A) STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

II.

Area (in acres)	39841
Population - Census, 1931	17521
Estimated mid-year 1946	16290
Number of inhabited houses (Census 1931)	5027
Number of families or separate occupiers (Census 1931) ..	5047
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1946 accord- ing to Rate Book	5954
Rateable value	£120702
Sum represented by a 1d. rate (estimated)	£468

The chief occupations of the people are cotton weaving, coal mining and dairy farming.

There was practically no unemployment in the District during the year. Social conditions, on the whole, were fairly satisfactory.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Live Births :—Legitimate	118	117	235
Illegitimate	7	6	13
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	125	123	248
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(Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1946 - 15·2).

Still Births :— Legitimate	3	3	6
Illegitimate	—	—	—

(Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births - 23·0).

DEATHS.

Male.	Female.	Total.
116	120	236

(Death-rate per 1,000 of the population - 14·4).

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

	Deaths	Death-rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births.
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	—	Nil.
Other maternal causes	1	3·93
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total maternal mortality	1	3·93
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DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	5	5	10
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Death-rate of all infants per 1,000 live births — 40.

Death-rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 leg. live births—42.

Death-rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illeg. live births—Nil.

The following tables shewing the birth and death rates during the last ten years will perhaps be of interest.

BIRTH RATE FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS.

Year.	Births.	Rate per 1,000 of Population.
1937	180	10.1
1938	184	10.3
1939	203	11.6
1940	181	10.4
1941	190	11.0
1942	194	11.5
1943	225	13.6
1944	245	14.9
1945	239	15.3
1946	248	15.2

DEATH RATE FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS.

Year.	No.	Rate pr 1,000 of Population.
1937	241	13.6
1938	182	10.2
1939	242	13.8
1940	232	13.3
1941	248	14.3
1942	225	13.3
1943	255	15.4
1944	212	12.9
1945	203	13.0
1946	236	14.4

INFANTILE DEATHS FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS.

Year.	No.	Rate per 1,000 births.
1937	8	44.0
1938	8	43.0
1939	11	54.0
1940	8	43.0
1941	8	41.0
1942	4	20.0
1943	12	53.0
1944	14	57.0
1945	6	25.0
1946	10	40.0

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	32
„ „ Measles (all ages)	—
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1

	PER 1,000 OF ESTIMATED POPULATION.				MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE.		Rate of Deaths under One Year per 1,000 live births
	Live birth-rate	Crude death-rate	Death-rate from tuberculosis of resp'tory system	Death-rate from cancer	Per 1,000 Live births	Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) births	
Mean of five years—							
1941-1945 ...	13.2	13.7	0.31	1.65	2.61	2.53	39
Year—							
1945	15.3	13.0	0.44	1.92	4.18	4.01	25
1946	15.2	14.4	0.24	1.96	4.03	3.93	4
Increase or decrease in 1946 on—							
5 years' average,							
1941-1945 ...	+2.0	+0.7	—0.07	+0.31	+1.42	+1.40	+1
Previous year	—0.1	+1.4	—0.20	+0.04	—0.15	—0.08	+15

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Male.	Female.
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers....	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—
3. Scarlet fever	—	—
4. Whooping cough	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	3
7. Other forms of tuberculosis	—	—
8. Syphilitic diseases	—	—
9. Influenza	1	4
10. Measles	—	—
11. Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	—	—
12. Acute infectious encephalitis	1	—
13. Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (males); also cancer of uterus (F)...	3	—
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	4	—
15. Cancer of breast	—	1
16. Cancer of all other sites	10	14
17. Diabetes	—	1
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions	8	17
19. Heart Disease	37	35
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	6	5
21. Bronchitis	6	6
22. Pneumonia	2	3
23. Other respiratory diseases....	1	1
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	—	—
25. Diarrhoea, under 2 years of age	—	1
26. Appendicitis	—	—
27. Other digestive diseases	4	3
28. Nephritis	5	1
29. Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	—	—
30. Other maternal causes	—	1
31. Premature birth	1	1
32. Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease	4	2
33. Suicide	2	3
34. Road traffic accidents	—	—
35. Other violent causes	5	5
36. All other causes	15	13
	<hr/> 116 <hr/>	<hr/> 120 <hr/>

The total number of deaths was 33 more than in the previous year. The average for the previous 10 years was 227 deaths.

SUMMARY OF DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGE PERIODS

	Under 1 year	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65-75	75 and over.	Total
Males ...	5	—	—	—	—	5	29	34	43	116
Females...	5	—	—	—	—	8	33	39	35	120
	10	—	—	—	—	13	62	73	78	236

There was no evidence that any of the conditions of occupations or environment had any prejudicial effect on health.

Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case rates for certain Infectious diseases in the Year 1946. Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales.	126 C.Bs. and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,00-50,000 at 1931 Census.	Burnley Rural District.
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.				
Live Births.....	19.1†	22.2	21.3	15.2
Still	0.53‡	0.67	0.59	0.36
Deaths :—				
All causes	11.5†	12.7	11.7	14.4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00
Diphtheria	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Influenza	0.15	0.13	0.14	0.3
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Rates per 1,000 Live Births :—				
Deaths under 1 year of Age	43†	46	37	40
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	4.4	6.1	2.8	4.0
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.				
Notifications :—				
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.06
Paratyphoid Fever ...	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.06
Scarlet Fever	1.38	1.51	1.33	1.53
Whooping Cough	2.28	2.48	2.05	0.61
Diphtheriz	0.28	0.32	0.31	0.42
Erysipelas	0.22	0.25	0.22	0.12
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	3.92	4.73	3.70	4.11
Pneumonia	0.89	1.02	0.74	0.49

* A dash (—) signifies that there was no deaths.

† Per 1,000 related births.

‡ Rates per 1,000 Total Population.

(B) GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. **Laboratory Facilities.**—Specimens for bacteriological and pathological examination are sent to the Burnley Public Health Laboratory, Victoria Hospital, Burnley, and the cost of examination is borne by the Rural District Council.

The number of specimens sent to the Laboratory by medical practitioners and others during 1946 is given on page 24.

2. **Ambulance Facilities.**—Since 1944 a free ambulance service for all accident and sick cases has been in operation throughout the District, by arrangement with neighbouring local authorities whose motor ambulances are used.

The cost to the Council for the year was approximately £380.

3. **Nursing in the Home.**—There are three Nursing Associations in the District, viz. :—

- (a) **Fence District**, which includes the parishes of Old Laund Booth, Higham, Barley, Roughlee, Goldshaw Booth and part of Reedley. — One Nurse.
- (b) **Read District** includes the parishes of Read, Sabden, Simonstone. — One Nurse.
- (c) **Cliviger District** includes the parishes of Cliviger, Worsthorne, Hapton, and Habergham Eaves. — Two Nurses.
- (d) **Blacko**, this township is a member of the Nursing Association in the adjacent Urban District of Barrowford.

Other parishes are served by Nursing Associations in nearby towns through voluntary subscriptions.

The nurses attend to midwifery cases on behalf of the County Council. This service, and indeed the nurses work generally, has been of inestimable value to the District, and is greatly appreciated by the public.

The Associations are maintained by public subscriptions, but the County Council meet the cost of the service in connection with midwifery.

**(C)—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.
WATER SUPPLY.**

A number of houses were connected to the Council's water supplies in place of unsatisfactory private supplies, viz :—

Damfield Cottages, Cliviger	—	12 houses.
Mereclough, Cliviger	—	11 houses
Field Top, Fence	—	6 houses
Roughlee School, Roughlee	—	School

Twenty samples of water were taken, 8 from public supplies and 12 from private, as follows :—

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

Township.	Results of Examination.	
	Bacteriological.	Chemical.
Briercliffe	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Cliviger	Unsatisfactory	do.
Foulridge	Satisfactory	do.
Hapton	Doubtful	do.
Read (2)	Unsatisfactory (later satisfactory)	do.
Newchurch	Doubtful	do.
Sabden	Doubtful	do.

These results were reported to the Council, and, where necessary, appropriate action was taken by the Surveyor's department to effect an improvement.

PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES.

Under Pendle Farm,
Barley — Satisfactory

Noyna Hall Farm,
Foulridge — Satisfactory

Higham.

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| (1) Drinking Fountain | Satisfactory |
| (2) 3, Town Gate | do. |
| (3) Fir Trees House | do. |

Thorneyholme Square,
Roughlee — Doubtful

Crowtrees, Spring Cottages, Roughlee	—	Satisfactory
Sabden House, Sabden Fold	—	Satisfactory
Roadside Well, Sabden Fold	—	Doubtful
Green Top Farm, Sabden Fold	—	Unsatisfactory
School, Roughlee	—	Unsatisfactory
Damfield Cottages, Cliviger	—	Unsatisfactory

The school at Roughlee and the cottages at Damfield, Cliviger, were subsequently connected to the Council's water supply. The pollution of the supply at Green Top Farm was caused by surface water getting into the supply ; this was diverted and the supply is now satisfactory.

Of the chemical analyses of the public water supplies, the Analyst reported :—

“ The waters are of a good degree of organic purity, and chemically, quite suitable for drinking purposes. The pH values of 4 of the samples are rather on the low side and there might be some tendency to react with lead, although this is not apparent in the samples submitted for analysis.”

The samples with a rather low pH value were :—

Sabden supply	pH value 6.3
Hapton „	pH value 5.6
Newchurch „	pH value 6.3
Foulridge „	pH value 6.2 ”

Steps are being taken to install chlorination plants to all the Council's water supplies.

Details of the estimated number of houses with a piped supply of water are as follows :—

	No. of dwelling houses	Piped Supplies.		Not Piped.
		From public water mains	From private supplies	
Altham	231	215	16	—
Barley	82	15	60	7
Blacko	171	119	44	8
Briercliffe	858	823	22	13
Cliviger	603	381	200	22
Dunnockshaw ...	124	25	95	4
Foulridge	483	423	51	9
Goldshaw	73	33	38	2
Habergham Eaves	250	218	30	2
Hapton	601	540	37	24
Higham	207	133	66	8
Ightenhill	57	57	—	—
Northtown	32	18	13	1
Old Laund Booth	253	217	36	—
Read	284	260	24	—
Reedley Hallows	270	208	51	11
Roughlee	115	34	80	1
Sabden	456	400	56	—
Simonstone	225	213	12	—
Worsthorne	580	574	6	—

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No special action has been taken to check the pollution of rivers and streams in the area. The chief source of pollution is from villages not yet sewered.

* DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There were no important extensions of sewerage nor was any special work carried out in connection with sewage disposal.

Sewerage schemes are needed at Cliviger, Dunnockshaw, part of Briercliffe (Lane Bottom area), and Ightenhill, Newchurch-in-Pendle, Simonstone (Clough area), Reedley Hallows (Ainsdale Ave., and Quaker Bridge) Barley and Roughlee.

A sewerage scheme for Cliviger is at present being prepared.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The following statement shews the number of closet conversions carried out during the year, and for the previous 5 years :—

	1946.	1941—1945.
Waste water closets to fresh water closets	—	35
Privies to fresh water closets ...	—	—
Privies to pail closets ...	—	10
Pail closets to fresh water closets ...	—	3

The approximate numbers of sanitary conveniences in the District are as follows :—

Fresh-water closets ...	2419
Waste water closets ...	2191
Pail closets	612
Tank closets (cesspools)	423

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

There was no extension or noteworthy improvement during the year in the arrangements for the removal of house refuse and the emptying of cesspools, etc.

At present we have 3 motor vehicles and 2 horses and carts engaged on this work. The motor vehicles are hired, but all the work is done by direct labour. House refuse is disposed of on tips. Great difficulty is being experienced in disposing of closet contents and schemes are in hand to either deposit the material in sewers or take it to sewage works.

House refuse is collected weekly in most parishes and pail closets are emptied weekly throughout the district.

Salvage work was well maintained and the amounts of waste paper and other materials collected compared favourably with those of the previous year.

Particulars of the material collected are as follows :—

	1946.	1945.
Waste Paper ...	90 tons.	72½ tons.
Bottles ...	76 doz.	148 eoz.
Jars ...	94 doz.	162 doz.
Scrap Iron...	6 tons.	5½ tons.
Aluminium ...	2 cwts.	1½ cwts.
Lead ...	2 cwts.	2 cwts.
Brass ...	1 cwt.	1 cwt.
Copper ...	1 cwt.	68 lbs.
Zinc ...	2 qrs.	18 lbs.
Bones ...	36 cwts.	30 cwts.

Rags	...	...	2½ tons.	3½ tons.
Woollens	...	...	2 cwts.	—
Carpets	...	...	3 cwts.	—
String	...	...	5 cwts.	—
Rubber	...	...	—	1 ton.
Total Receipts	...	£667	£553	

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The several townships in the District have been regularly inspected.

Fifty-four complaints were received. These were immediately investigated and dealt with.

Number of visits to premises	...	...	...	995
Number of defects or nuisances found	...	...	...	405
Number of notices issued—(a) Preliminary	...	...	...	118
(b) Statutory	...	...	...	14

MATTERS DEALT WITH:—

Defective dustbins renewed	...	...	...	204
Defective sanitary pails renewed	...	...	...	85
Blocked drains opened	...	...	...	24
Burst water pipes repaired	...	...	...	8
New closet pedestals fixed	...	...	...	1
Sink waste pipes repaired	...	...	...	4
Defective drains repaired	...	...	...	3
Septic tanks repaired	...	...	...	6
Defective eaves gutters repaired	...	...	...	11
Defective rain water pipes repaired	...	...	...	6
Blocked waste water closets opened	...	...	...	9
Defective closet structures repaired	...	...	...	2
Back yard surface repaired	...	...	...	1
Defective yard walls rebuilt	...	...	...	5
Defective closet cistern repaired	...	...	...	1
Defective closet door renewed	...	...	...	1
Defective yard door renewed	...	...	...	1
Defective coal-place rebuilt	...	...	...	1
Defective closet tipper repaired	...	...	...	3
House floor repaired	...	...	...	1
Broken windows re-glazed	...	...	...	2
Defective fireplace repaired	...	...	...	1
Defective scullery chimneys renewed	...	...	...	2

Total nuisances abated ... 382

SHOPS.

No action was taken during the year under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, relating to temperature and ventilation of shops and to sanitary conveniences, nor under the Public Health Act, 1936.

CAMPING SITES.

- (a) Number of sites in the District which were used for camping purposes during 1946 Two
- (b) Number of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by the local authority under section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936 None
- (c) Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the district at one time during the summer season 60

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No special action was taken with regard to smoke abatement.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

No changes or developments during the year.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Several inspections were made and the sanitary conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, ETC.

No action was taken with regard to tents, vans, sheds, etc. in the district. There are no local byelaws dealing with these or similar structures.

SCHOOLS.

Conditions reported in previous reports are unchanged. No school closure took place on account of infectious disease.

DISINFESTATION.

Three houses were dealt with during the year—one for flea infestation and 2 for bugs.

The rooms were fumigated with sulphur candles for the flea infestation and with "Thermatox" fumigators for the bug infestations, and afterwards were sprayed with Zaldecide or Pyagra disinfectant containing D.D.T. The work was done by the Health Department and the results were very satisfactory.

(D) HOUSING.

The housing situation remains much the same as last year.

Ten housing schemes are contemplated in the various parishes and sites have been obtained. Work is in hand on 4 of these schemes.

(a) STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the Year :— None.

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 182

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 378

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 182

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 378

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous as to be unfit for human habitation... —

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 49

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers 36

3. Action under statutory powers during the year :—

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs... .. 1

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners 1

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... 0

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 1

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices 1
(b) by local authority in default of owners... 1

4. Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year (estimated)	18
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ...	18
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	82
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	0
(c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	0

The repairs effected to houses were of a general character. It was not possible to carry out any reconditioning of property, but every effort was made to get repairs done which would keep the houses in a reasonable state of fitness.

Considerable difficulty was again experienced in getting repairs done on account of shortage of labour and materials.

(E) INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**(a) MILK SUPPLY.**

Particulars as to the number of dairy farms in the district have been given in previous reports.

The number of inspections made during 1946 ...	428
Notices issued re defects and/or dirty conditions	42

Improvements effected :—

Huntroyde Home Farm,	(a) Cowshed remodelled.
SIMONSTONE.	(b) Modern dairy provided.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOOD.

Under the Government's war-time scheme of meat control the private slaughterhouses in the district have not been used since the beginning of the war ; all slaughtering for this area is at present being done at the abattoir in Burnley.

The butchers' shops, however, have been inspected and generally were found clean and well maintained.

Attention was also paid to other premises where food, including ice-cream, was prepared, and frequent inspections carried out.

The following articles of food were condemned during the year :—

52 of 1 lb. tins of meat.

35 of 2 lbs. tins of jam.

4 tins of condensed milk.

3 tins of peas.

2 tins of salmon.

Pluck, head and part of carcass of a pig.

(c) ADULTERATION, ETC.

The County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and deal with adulteration of food, etc.

(d) CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF FOOD.

Examinations are carried out at the Burnley Municipal Laboratory. No food was sent for examination during the year.

(e) NUTRITION.

No special action was taken.

(f) SHELL-FISH (MOLLUSCAN).

There are no shell-fish beds or layings in the District.

**(F) PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

GENERAL.

As will be seen from the table below, there were 43 fewer cases of infectious disease than in 1945.

Two outbreaks of measles occurred at Foulridge and Hapton during November and December, but apart from these the incidence of infectious disease in any one parish was very slight.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
Smallpox....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	47	71	40	39	42	25
Diphtheria	11	1	4	3	15	7
Enteric fever (including paratyphoid) ...	3	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	146	73	173	33	75	67
Whooping cough	37	22	27	2	16	10
Acute pneumonia	16	11	10	6	9	8
Puerperal pyrexia	—	4	2	2	2	3
Cerebro-spinal fever	4	2	1	—	—	1
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	3	4	7	2
Erysipelas	6	8	1	4	3	2
Ophthalmia Neon	1	4	5	—	1	1
Total	<u>271</u>	<u>196</u>	<u>266</u>	<u>93</u>	<u>170</u>	<u>127</u>

Scarlet Fever :—The cases were fairly well distributed over the whole district, notifications being received from 13 of the 20 parishes in the district.

The figures shown in brackets are the numbers for the previous year.

Townships from which notifications were received :—

Altham	0 (1)	Higham	0 (2)
Barley	0 (0)	Ightenhill	0 (0)
Blacko	1 (2)	Northtown	0 (0)
Briercliffe	2 (11)	Old Laund Booth	2 (4)
Cliviger	1 (1)	Read	1 (0)
Dunnockshaw	2 (0)	Reedley	1 (5)
Foulridge	7 (4)	Roughlee	1 (1)
Goldshaw Booth	2 (2)	Sabden	0 (0)
Habergham Eaves	0 (1)	Simonstone	1 (1)
Hapton	3 (6)	Worsthorne	1 (1)

Seasonal Prevalence.

January	3(10)	July	3 (2)
February.....	4 (3)	August	3 (2)
March	1 (4)	September	0 (1)
April	0 (0)	October	5 (2)
May	2 (4)	November	1 (8)
June	2 (3)	December	1 (3)

Sixteen patients were removed to the Infectious Disease Hospital, being 64% of the total number notified.

There were no deaths.

Diphtheria :—Seven cases occurred, compared with 15 in 1945.

Townships affected :—

Briercliffe	2 (5)	Read	2 (1)
Hapton	1 (3)	Sabden	0 (1)
Habergham Eaves ...	0 (1)	Northtown	0 (1)
Cliviger	0 (1)	Worsthorne	1 (1)
Foulridge	1 (1)		

Seasonal Prevalence.

January	3	July	2
February	0	August	0
March	0	November	1
April	1	December	0
May	0		

Six of the 7. patients had not received immunisation treatment.

Measles :—The total number of cases was 8 less than in 1945. It will be noticed that 48 of the total number of 67 cases occurred in 3 parishes.

Townships from which notifications were received :—

Altham	0 (4)	Higham	0 (1)
Barley	0 (0)	Ightenhill	0 (0)
Blacko	2 (0)	Northtown	0 (0)
Briercliffe	2(27)	Old Laund Booth	3 (3)
Cliviger	4 (4)	Read	1 (0)
Dunnockshaw	1 (1)	Sabden	0 (6)
Foulridge	14 (0)	Reedley	4 (7)
Goldshaw Booth	0 (0)	Simonstone.....	0 (0)
Habergham Eaves.....	2 (2)	Worsthorne.....	9 (4)
Hapton	25 (6)		

Seasonal Prevalence.

January	0	July	0
February	8	August	2
March	0	September	0
April	0	October	6
May	1	November	32
June	0	December	26

Pneumonia :—Eight cases were notified as compared with nine in 1944, and an average of 10 in the previous 5 years.

There were five deaths during the year from this disease—all un-notified cases.

Townships from which notifications were received :—

Briercliffe	1 (1)	Old Laund Booth	0 (2)
Cliviger	2 (1)	Reedley	0 (1)
Habergham Eaves ...	0 (2)	Worsthorne	5 (2)

Seasonal Prevalence.

January.....	2	May	1
February	1	June	1
March	1	November	2

Whooping Cough :—Ten cases were notified as compared with 16 in the previous year. The average number for the 5 years 1941—1945 was 21.

Townships from which notifications were received :—

Briercliffe	4	Roughlee.....	1
Dunnockshaw	2	Sabden	1
Old Laund Booth	2		

Seasonal Prevalence.

March	4	November	1
July	1	December	1
October	3		

Four of the 10 cases came from 2 families, 2 each from 2 families.

There were no deaths.

Other Infectious Disease :—None of the other infectious diseases calls for special comment.

Disinfection :—47 houses were disinfected during the year. Fumigation or spraying with formalin is the usual method employed. Where necessary, bedding, etc. is removed to the Burnley Corporation Cleansing Station for steam disinfection.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations.

	Total	Negative	Positive
Swabs (Diph). ...	47	44	3
Sputum (T.B.) ...	14	13	1
Faeces (Ent. or Dys.)	11	—	—
Blood ...	4	—	—

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The number of children who completed a full course of immunisation during the year was :—

0—4 years of age ...	172
5—14 years of age ...	40

The percentage of the child population that had received immunisation treatment by the end of 1946, was :—

Under 5 years of age.....	53%
Over 5 and under 15 years of age ...	68%

The prophylactic used in the Council's scheme was A.P.T.

No post-Schick tests were undertaken.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR, 1946.

The following analysis of cases of infectious diseases notified, and deaths therefrom, under the various age groups, will perhaps be of interest.

Notifiable Diseases.	Total Cases Notified.											Hospital.		Total Deaths.	
	Total cases at all ages	Years.									Total cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to District			
		Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35			35-45		45-65	65 & over
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	25	—	—	5	2	8	6	2	2	2	—	17	—	—	—
Diphtheria	7	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	1	—	7	—	—	—
Enteric fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Acute pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(primary & influenza)	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	1	—	—	5
Cerebro-spinal fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Dysentery	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Measles	67	1	—	8	8	42	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
neonatorum	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	10	2	1	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	127	4	1	5	16	11	55	14	5	7	3	31	Nil		5

Cancer :—The number of deaths from cancer was 32, two more than in the previous year.

The average number of deaths for the decennial period 1937-1946 was 28.

Localisation of the disease :—

FEMALES :—Lung 1 ; Pancreas 1 ; Colon 1 ; Breast 1 ; Liver 5 ; Rectum 1 ; Others 5.

MALES :—Stomach 4 ; Prostate 2 ; Oesophagus and mouth 3 ; Lung 1 ; Colon 1 ; Rectum 1 ; Liver 4 ; Other 1.

SUMMARY OF DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGE PERIODS.

	15-20	30-35	35-40	40-45	45-50	50-55	55-60	60-65	65-70	70-75	Over 75
Males ...	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	1	4	3	4
Females	—	1	—	1	—	—	3	4	2	1	3

DEATHS DURING PAST 10 YEARS.

	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
Males ...	17	14	15	12	16	16	13	14	11	17
Females	11	15	12	16	10	18	12	8	19	15
Total ...	28	29	27	28	26	34	25	22	30	32

DEATH RATE FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS.

Year.	Cancer Deaths.		Total number of Deaths (all causes).		Rate per 100 deaths.	
1937	...	28	...	223	...	12·5
1938	...	28	...	241	...	11·6
1939	...	29	...	182	...	15·9
1940	...	27	...	242	...	11·2
1941	...	28	...	232	...	12·1
1942	...	26	...	248	...	10·5
1943	...	34	...	225	...	15·1
1944	...	25	...	255	...	9·8
1945	...	30	...	203	...	14·7
1946	...	32	...	236	...	13·6

TUBERCULOSIS.

Number of primary notifications received from medical practitioners on Form 'A'	Total.	Non-Pulmonary	
		Pulmonary.	Pulmonary
... 12	...	9	3
Un-notified cases (obtained from Death Returns) ... 1	...	1	—
Total ... 13	...	10	3

Localisation of the Disease :—

	M.	F.	Total.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	8	10
Kidney	—	1	1
Glands of Neck	—	2	2
	2	11	13

Occupation of Patients :—

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary	
Wood Worker	1	...	...	—
Clerk (Office)	1	...	...	—
Household Duties	5	...	...	—
Weavers (Cotton Mill)	2	...	...	1
Painter	1	...	...	—
Children ... ..	—	...	...	2
	10	...	...	3

The following table shews the age periods of new cases and of deaths in the area :—

Age. Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
45—55	1	1	—	—	1	2	—	—
55—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	2	8	—	3	1	3	—	—
Totals	10		3		4		—	

TABLE.

Comparative Statement of Cases Notified during past 10 years.

Year.	PULMONARY.		NON-PULMONARY.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1937	4	8	2	3	17
1938	1	7	4	6	18
1939	5	4	1	4	14
1940	5	5	5	2	17
1941	7	4	6	5	22
1942	3	11	1	—	15
1943	3	7	—	3	13
1944	3	3	4	3	13
1945	6	7	3	1	17
1946	2	8	—	3	13

The notification of the disease by medical practitioners is very satisfactorily carried out and no case of wilful neglect or refusal to notify has occurred.

Deaths from Tuberculosis.

Year.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1937	3	7	3	1	14
1938	2	—	1	—	3
1939	2	3	—	—	5
1940	4	5	—	—	9
1941	3	5	3	1	12
1942	3	6	—	1	10
1943	—	2	—	1	3
1944	1	—	—	2	3
1945	4	3	—	—	7
1946	1	3	—	—	4

All the deaths were of notified cases.

There does not appear to be any evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from, tuberculosis in any particular occupation.

Seven patients were sent to various sanatoria for treatment, and three pulmonary and eight non-pulmonary cases were reported by the County Tuberculosis Officer to have recovered from the disease.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, which relate to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade; or under the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the compulsory removal to a hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

D. C. LAMONT.

R. E. ROBINSON,

Joint Medical Officers of Health.

